(b) Status as on 31.3.1991;
Capacity— 500 lines
Waiting list—336

(c) Yes Sir, by 300 lines.

Management of Agra Canal

3856. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over the management of that part of Agra Canal to Haryana which provides irrigation facility to the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) Transfer of management of that part of Agra Canal System to Haryana which provides irrigation facilities to Haryana has been under discussion between the Government of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. With a view to resolve this issue meetings were convened by the then Union Minister for Agriculture & Irrigation in January, 1975 and April, 1981 and Inter-State meeting was also convened by the Union Secretary, Water Resources in October, 1987. The Chief Ministers of the two States also met in May, 1989 which was followed by meeting of the Secretaries of the two States in June, 1989. No consensus on the issue has been arrived at between the two States so far.

[Translation]

Scheme to ensure larger share to vegetable growers

3857. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are formulating any scheme to ensure a large share to the vegetable growers out of the price paid by the consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) is implementing a Pilot Project to provide a direct link between vegetable growers and consumers by marketing their produce directly to the consumers at reasonable price through 166 retail outlets in Delhi. NDDB at the instance of the Government is conducting a pre-feasibility for preparation of an Integrated Project to modernise and strengthen the procurement, transport, storage, processing and marketing of fresh and processed horticulture products linking important production areas with six major urban centres namely Ahmedabad, Calcutta, Cochin, Hyderabad, Lucknow and Madras. Besides, National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is implementing a post-harvest Management Scheme for helping the vegetable growers to get a larger share of the consumer price. Under the scheme, NCDC provides hundred per cent assistance way of loan to the fruit and vegetable growers cooperatives and subsidy is provided by National Horticulture Board.

Setting up of automatic telephone exchanges

3858. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of automatic telephone exchanges proposed to be set up by the Government in the country during 1991-92; and

(b) the details thereof and the amount allocated therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 4550 Nos. of automatic Telephone exchanges are planned to be set up during 1991-92.

(b) The details of exchanges are as follows:—

(i) The number of large automatic exchanges — 110 Nos.

(ii) Number of small & medium sized exchanges / exchange units-4440. The budget amount estimated for establishing these exchanges alongwith the associated external plant and other infra-structure in 1991-92 is Rs. 2385 crores.